Amount sanctioned for RGRES

†*568. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to start the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned by Government for this scheme; and

(d) the number of villages targeted to be electrified under this scheme during the year 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) A new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and household Electrification has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme of providing access to electricity to all Rural Household in five years. The scheme would be implemented through Rural Electrification Corporation.

Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for projects for:

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with on 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) substation in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System '

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all un-electrified villages/habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from conventional sources for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

The scheme *inter alia* provides for financing of electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

For projects to be eligible for capital subsidy under this scheme prior commitment of the States would be taken before sanction of the projects for

(i) deployment of franchisees for the management of rural distribution in projects financed under this scheme;

(ii) provision of requisite revenue subsidy to the State utilities as required under the Electricity Act., 2003.

The States would also be required to make adequate arrangements for supply of electricity and there should be no discrimination in the hours of supply between rural and urban households.

The scheme covers the entire country and the funds would be released on the basis of sanction of the projects submitted. It is estimated that Rs. 16,000 crore would be required for the entire scheme. For Phase I of the scheme approved for implementation during the 10th Five Year Plan Period Rs. 5,000 crore has been provided by the Central Government as Capital subsidy.

(d) The scheme aims at completing electrification of all un-electrified villages and un-electrified hamlets in next five years.

Actions on projects involving electrification of 57,526 villages/habitations have so far been initiated.

Assistance for Export of Poultry and Dairy Products

*569. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is extending/propose to extend any assistance for export of poultry and dairy products from Namakkal and Salem districts of Tamil Nadu which have great potentiality for export of these products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH) (a) to (c) In the recently announced Foreign Trade Policy, the